

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 DLOS-03 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05

L-02 INT-05 OFA-01 /076 W

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P 132144Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4806

INFO AMEMBASSY BRAZILIA PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 1800

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EFIS PLOS EC

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF LOS/FISHERIES TALKS WITH ECUADOR

BRAZILIA FOR ASST SECY ROGERS

REF: A) STATE 39983 B) QUITO 1703 C) QUITO 1317

1. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT IT WAS ORIGINALLY AGREED THAT MOORE/CLINGAN VISIT TO QUITO WOULD BE KEPT IN VERY LOW KEY AND THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PUBLICITY. AGREED GUIDANCE (REF A) WAS THAT, IF ASKED, WE WOULD CONFIRM EXISTENCE OF EXPLORATORY TALKS. IT WAS ALSO EXPRESS WISH OF GOE THAT THERE BE NO PUBLICITY. (REF C)

2. SINCE MOORE/CLINGAN DEPARTURE AND UNTIL PUBLICATION OF WELLES STORY IN MARCH 13 EDITION OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, WASHINGTON ORIGINATED PUBLICITY OF THEIR VISIT HERE HAD NOT POSED SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS. GOE REACTION TO STORIES THUS FAR HAS BEEN TYPIFIED BY FOREIGN OFFICE MARCH 11 STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT USDEL HAD BEEN HERE ON ROUTINE LOS CONSULTATIONS ON EVE OF GENEVA SESSION (REF B).

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3. WE ARE CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT WELLES STORY, IF IT

BECOMES KNOWN HERE, MAY PROVOKE STRONGER GOE REACTION
AND EVEN ELICIT PREMATURE GOE REJECTION BECAUSE IT GOES
INTO THE SUBSTANCE OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED. THIS COULD
OBVIOUSLY PLACE GOE IN AWKWARD POSITION ON WHAT IS A
SENSITIVE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE HERE.

4. WE ARE HOPING THAT WELLES STORY IS NOT PICKED UP HERE
AND THAT, IF IT IS, GOE WILL SEE FIT TO GRACEFULLY SHRUG
IT OFF AS IT HAS EARLIER STORES. WE WOULD STRONGLY
RECOMMEND, HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF EARLIER COMMITMENT TO KEEP
THIS MATTER QUIET AND THE POSSIBLE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES
TO WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH, THAT DEPARTMENT REFRAIN
FROM ANY FURTHER BRIEFINGS TO PRESS ON THIS SUBJECT. WE
THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO GIVE GOE TIME TO ABSORB OUR
PROPOSAL WITHOUT FEELING THAT THEY ARE BEING PRESSURED BY
US THROUGH VEHICLE OF THE PRESS.
BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FISHERIES MEETINGS
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Draft Date: 13 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750088-0968
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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05 JUL 2006

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